

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences Decision dated 09/02/2010.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Webster on 12/15/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 2-4, 8 and 10-18 are canceled.

Amend claim 5 as follows:

The method of claim 2, A method for outputting A/V streams onto a screen in response to a user's request by a home network which includes a server for outputting audio/video streams and plural renderers connected to the server through a home network, comprising:

_____ a step in which a renderer connected to a server requests A/V streams;
_____ a step in which the server judges whether A/V streams can be outputted in response to the request from the renderer; and
_____ a step in which the server provides the A/V streams to the renderer sequentially or simultaneously if the A/V stream can be outputted, or outputting a server unavailability message to the renderer if the server judges that the A/V streams cannot be outputted,

_____ wherein, in the step of judging whether A/V streams can be outputted, the server compares transmission time of entire A/V streams and A/V stream transmission time according to a defined reproduction capability of the server required for reproducing A/V streams, and then judges whether the A/V streams can be outputted, and

wherein the A/V stream transmission time signifies total amount of time obtained by adding the a seek time taken for a header to move to an address where the A/V stream is positioned, a head activation time taken for the header to select a track in which the A/V stream is stored, a rotation latency time taken for the header to be positioned at a desired sector, and a time taken for the A/V stream read through the header to be transferred to the memory.

Amend claim 9 as follows:

The method of claim 2; A method for outputting A/V streams onto a screen in response to a user's request by a home network which includes a server for outputting audio/video streams and plural renderers connected to the server through a home network, comprising:

_____ a step in which a renderer connected to a server requests A/V streams;
_____ a step in which the server judges whether A/V streams can be outputted in response to the request from the renderer; and
_____ a step in which the server provides the A/V streams to the renderer sequentially or simultaneously if the A/V stream can be outputted, or outputting a server unavailability message to the renderer if the server judges that the A/V streams cannot be outputted,
_____ wherein, in the step of judging whether A/V streams can be outputted, the server compares transmission time of entire A/V streams and A/V stream transmission time according to a defined reproduction capability of the server required for reproducing A/V streams, and then judges whether the A/V streams can be outputted, and

wherein, in the step of judging whether A/V streams can be outputted, the number of A/V streams that can be finally outputted is judged on the basis of the lowest reference of header movement speed, header reading speed and the server's reproduction processing capability, in order to determine whether to transfer the server unavailability message.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 6 and 7 are allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for outputting A/V streams comprising a step in which a renderer requests the A/V stream, a step in which a server judges whether the A/V stream can be outputted, a

step in which the server provides the A/V stream to the renderer, wherein the server compares the overall transfer rate of the A/V streams being reproduced and a predetermined A/V stream transfer rate on the basis of the distance between a position where the A/V stream requested by the renderer has been recorded and a position where the A/V stream being reproduced has been recorded, as recited in the claims.

Claim 5 is allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for outputting A/V streams comprising a step in which a renderer requests the A/V stream, a step in which a server judges whether the A/V stream can be outputted, a step in which the server provides the A/V stream to the renderer, wherein the A/V stream transmission time signifies total amount of time obtained by adding the a seek time taken for a header to move to an address where the A/V stream is positioned, a head activation time taken for the header to select a track in which the A/V stream is stored, a rotation latency time taken for the header to be positioned at a desired sector, and a time taken for the A/V stream read through the header to be transferred to the memory, as recited in the claims.

Claim 9 is allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for outputting A/V streams comprising a step in which a renderer requests the A/V stream, a step in which a server judges whether the A/V stream can be outputted, a step in which the server provides the A/V stream to the renderer, wherein, in the step of judging whether A/V streams can be outputted, the number of A/V streams that can be finally outputted is judged on the basis of the lowest reference of header movement speed, header reading speed and the server's reproduction processing capability, in order to

determine whether to transfer the server unavailability message, as recited in the claims.

The closest prior art, Giammaressi et al. (US 7,086,077), discloses a method of outputting A/V streams. Giammaressi either singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN SCHNURR whose telephone number is (571)270-1458. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9a-5p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John W. Miller/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2421

JRS